

MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUESTS

The Department will consider two types of variance requests for the medication distribution system rule:

16.03.22.310 "REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICATION.

.01. Medication Distribution System. Each facility must use medi-sets or blister packs. The facility may use multi-dose medication distribution systems that are provided for resident's receiving medications from the Veterans Administration or Railroad benefits. The medication system must be filled by a pharmacist and appropriately labeled in accordance with pharmacy standards and physician or authorized provider instructions."

I. Facility-Wide Variance Request for over the counter medications and vitamins/supplements only.

- ☐ Variance request is for 16.03.22.310.01
- ☐ States "reasons that show good cause"
- ☐ Includes assurance "resident's health and safety will not be jeopardized"
- ☐ Facility Policy for Bulk Medications
- ☐ Assurance staff have been trained
- ☐ Signed statement from nurse
- ☐ House supply is not part of request

II. Variance Request for Individual Resident Prescription medications. This variance will also allow for over the counter medications and vitamins/supplements if the facility does not have a facility-wide variance.

- ☐ Variance request is for 16.03.22.310.01
- ☐ Includes assurance "resident's health and safety will not be jeopardized"
- ☐ Facility Policy for Bulk Medications
- ☐ Assurance staffs have been trained
- ☐ States "reasons that show good cause" why the Resident cannot receive medications from their pharmacy bubble packed
- ☐ States "reasons that show good cause" why is the facility nurse unable to place medications in a bubble pack or medi-set for unlicensed staff.

NOTES:

Individual residents receiving medications from the Veterans Administration or Railroad benefits do not require a variance for the use of bulk medications, as an allowance for them is identified in the rule.

Liquids, creams, eye drops and powders are not required to be packaged in a blister pack or medi-set, and therefore, do not require a variance.

All medication containers must be appropriately labeled with the individual resident's name and in accordance with pharmacy standards.

House supplies of prescription, OTC medications or vitamins are not allowed.

Regulation applies only to the "Distribution System." If medications are received from the pharmacy in bulk, but then placed into medi-sets or blister packs by the nurse, no variance is required.